



Wichita Bicycle Master Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #4

Meeting Summary

February 23, 2012, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wichita City Hall – 1st Floor Board Room

Attendance

Committee Members: Barry Carroll, Charlie Claycomb, Jerry Jones, Lavonta Williams, Dalton Glasscock, Ben Sciortino, Sonja Armbruster

Staff: Peter Lagerwey (conference call), Scott Wadle, Dave Barber, John Schlegel

Others: None

1. Agenda Review – Purpose of the Meeting

Scott Wadle welcomed everyone and led a review of the meeting agenda. Barry Carroll requested an opportunity at the end of the meeting to highlight an upcoming event. No other changes to the agenda were requested.

2. Review – Project Update

Peter Lagerwey provided a brief review of the project progress to-date. He indicated that the project is on schedule and making good progress. The next major milestone is the May 1st public open house to review the plan recommendations. Pete indicated that the Steering Committee members will be encouraged to volunteer to assist, similar to the previous October 4th event and that a training/review session will be offered prior to the meeting.

3. Review – Goals and Objectives

Pete led a review of the draft 2/23/2012 Vision, Goals and Objectives by the Steering Committee. Scott, using the LCD projector, showed the results from the Steering Committee and October 4, 2011 Open House Event voting exercises. Below is a listing of the general discussion points.

- The draft document reflects the input received.
- The existing KDOT bicycle crash data only records crashes involving motor vehicles where a police report was filed. . This data does not account for the likely majority of bicycle related injuries which include cyclists cashing/falling by themselves and crashing into other cyclists. Accurate bike crash data can be difficult/expensive. There can be a role for the health community, especially the

County Health Department to assist with collecting more accurate data, possibly from emergency room records.

- The goal to create a bicycling culture prompted a discussion about whether it was appropriate to remove the reference to a culture; the general consensus of the Steering Committee was to keep it in the goals. One suggestion was to change the wording to include “foster and promote” a bicycle culture.
- Make the goals non-specific about the level of improvement and incorporate the desired specific level of achievement as a benchmark. (I.e. Goal 1 should state something to the effect of “increase the amount of bicycling in Wichita” and the benchmark might be something to the effect of “triple the amount of bicycling in Wichita over the next ten years”.
- Change the first objective under Goal 2 to included education of law enforcement and children.
- Emphasize that bicycling is fun.
- Review the benchmarks to ensure that they are realistic and achievable.
- Maybe generating awareness through information like the Cliff Bar Challenge could help increase rates of cycling.

4. Review – Bikeway Network Maps

Scott kicked off the Steering Committee review of the bikeway network maps by providing an overview of the development and review processes. Pete highlighted the general facility categories (proposed/existing, etc.) in the map legend and referred Steering Committee Members to the Bicycle Facilities Definitions handout for information about each specific facility type. Staff indicated that Steering Committee members can review and submit comments until March 2nd. The maps will be available for review in the Planning Department and members of the Steering Committee can stop by anytime to review/comment on them. Staff encouraged Steering Committee members to submit comments either by writing directly on the maps.

Once the above overview was completed, then the Steering Committee members took approximately 15 minutes to walk around and review the two sets of the printed bikeway maps. During the review staff indicated that another map of the priority bikeways for near-term implementation will also be created. Following the review of the maps, the Steering Committee reconvened to discuss initial impressions. A listing of the general discussion points related to this agenda item is provided below.

- Add Friends University and Newman University to the list of outside agencies to review the network maps

- There is a lot of information on the maps and it is somewhat overwhelming.
- There has been a lot of work done.
- The prioritization process will be important.
 - How much will the City commit for development of the bikeway system?
This information will be useful for us to know how much to prioritize.
 - A cost benefit analysis might be helpful for the prioritization process.
- The bike boulevards are exciting with lots of potential.
- Parents may not be comfortable allowing students to ride on roadway shoulders. Staff are encouraged to review the facilities planned near Northwest High School and Maize South Campus.
 - Shoulders do work for different types of users at different locations; continue to recommend them in appropriate areas.
- When discussing bicycle infrastructure it is helpful to keep in mind the type of cyclist not the purpose of the trip. This will help to identify the appropriate type of facility and allows for parity with motor vehicles – where the purpose of the trip is not a factor in infrastructure planning.

5. Review – Open House Event

The Steering Committee agreed that this item had been covered under agenda item 2.

6. Review – Better Block

Scott indicated that the Better Block event will use community input and volunteers to temporarily transform the streets configuration and streetscape of Douglas Avenue from Hydraulic Avenue to Kansas Avenue. The event will serve as an opportunity to temporarily demonstrate how bicycle facilities can be accommodated on the roadway. The event will also include activation of the block. Previous events have included pop-up businesses or art galleries.

Details:

Location: Douglas and Hydraulic

Date: April 27th and 28th

Time: Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday morning

Scott also highlighted that a community walk event is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on March 8th at the intersection of Douglas and Kansas Street. He encouraged the Steering Committee members to attend this community event to help plan the exciting and fun Better Block event.

Barry Carroll indicated that the Bike Walk Alliance will be hosting a movie event that same night on March 8th. They will be showing the movie Ride the Divide at the Murdock Theatre downtown. The movie starts at 7:00 p.m. and tickets cost \$10.

7. Questions and Answers

Steering Committee members discussed the following items.

- State of federal funding for bicycle projects through the TE program and impacts of recent federal transportation funding legislation

8. Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for March 22nd (thanks to Dalton for catching that one).